

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 088009
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

-----200923Z 022727 /15

O 200910Z APR 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 088009

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM SEOUL APRIL 20:

QUOTE S E C R E T SEOUL 3198

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SHUM PINT KS US

SUBJ: BLUE HOUSE VIEWS ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: SEOUL 2727

1. AT LENGTHY LUNCHEON APRIL 19 I REVIEWED WITH PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHONG-YOM (WHO WAS PRESENT AT MY RECENT MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PARK) OUR VIEWS ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. KIM'S RESPONSE GENERALLY PARROTED VIEWS OF PRESIDENT PARK, BUT PROVIDED SOME FURTHER INTERPRETATION.

2. TROOP WITHDRAWAL: KIM PROFESSED COMPLETE CONFIDENCE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 088009

ON THE PART OF PRESIDENT PARK AND ROKG LEADERSHIP THAT GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN FOUR TO FIVE YEAR PERIOD PROVIDED THERE WAS ADEQUATE FLOW OF ADDITIONAL WEAPONRY. HE POINTED TO INCREASED CAPACITY OF KOREAN DEFENSE INDUSTRY ON BASIS HIS RECENT VISIT WITH PRESIDENT PARK TO KEY INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES INVOLVED IN DEFENSE PRODUCTION. KIM ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER,

THAT PRESIDENT PARK FACED A MAJOR PROBLEM IN CONVINCING "GRASS ROOTS" OF KOREA'S CAPACITY TO RELY UPON ITS OWN RESOURCES ONCE GROUND FORCES WITHDRAW. HE FELT US COMPENSATORY ACTIONS WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IF NOT NECESSARY IN SUPPORTING PRESIDENT PARK'S EFFORTS WITH KOREAN PUBLIC.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS: WE DEVOTED CONSIDERABLY MORE TIME TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WITH ME AGAIN REVIEWING FULLY OUR POSITION AND REASONS FOR IT. I POINTED TO NUMBER OF FACTORS WHICH IN OUR JUDGMENT LENT CREDENCE TO VIEW THAT PRESIDENT PARK IN STRONG ENOUGH POSITION INTERNALLY TO BEAR RISKS OF MYONGDONG DEFENDANTS AND EASING OF CONTROLS.

4. KIM STOUTLY DEFENDED POSITION TAKEN BY PRESIDENT PARK, PARTICULARLY THAT RELEASE WOULD LEAD TO "FIREBALL" WITH DEFENDANTS ONCE RELEASED ORGANIZING AND LEADING LARGE SCALE DEMONSTRATIONS TO OUST PRESIDENT PARK. CONTROL OF DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD THEN LEAD TO UNFAVORABLE PRESS STORIES IN US AND RESULT IN EVEN MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT TO AMERICAN OPINION. I SUGGESTED THAT THIS NOT NECESSARILY THE LIKELY OUTCOME OF RELEASE BY ANY MEANS.

5. KIM CONTENDED AS LONG AS DEFENDANTS CONSIDERED THEMSELVES UNDER US PROTECTION, THEY WOULD FEEL FREE TO UNDERTAKE SUCH DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES WITHOUT FEAR OF CONTROL OR REPRISAL BY ROKG. INCREASED STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND CIRCULATION OF MARCH 22 DECLARATION INDICATIVE OF THIS LINE OF THINKING. ON OTHER HAND, PRESIDENT PARK IS MINDFUL OF PROBLEMS IN US AND SEEKS TO BE GENEROUS. HE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 088009

FELT PARK WOULD BE MUCH MORE PREPARED TO RELEASE MYONGDONG DEFENDANTS IF IT IS CLEAR THAT RELEASE IS ENTIRELY DECISION BY HIM, AND THAT US WILL NOT INTERFERE IN KOREA'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, THAT BY IMPLICATION NOT TRY TO PROTECT DEFENDANTS WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE ACTIVITIES, AND THAT WE ACCEPT ORIGINAL SENTENCING AND IMPRISONING OF SOME DEFENDANTS AS LAWFUL. I POINTED OUT THAT, AS HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR BY PRESIDENT CARTER TO FONMIN AND BY MYSELF TO PRESIDENT PARK, WE DO NOT WISH TO EXERT PUBLIC PRESSURES ON ROKG OR INTERFERE IN THEIR AFFAIRS, BUT PRESSURES ON PRESIDENT CARTER ARE INCREASING TO SPEAK OUT ON KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION.

6. I CONCLUDED OUR CONVERSATION BY STRESSING THAT TWO GOVERNMENTS FACED PARALLEL NEEDS: ROKG WISHED US TO BE HELPFUL IN HANDLING TROOP WITHDRAWAL WITH KOREAN PUBLIC AND WE SOUGHT HELPFUL SYMBOLIC GESTURE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN TERMS OF BROADENING PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR US COMMITMENT TO KOREA. KIM SEEMED IMPRESSED BY THIS LINE

OF ARGUMENTATION, BUT OBVIOUSLY PRESIDENT PARK STILL
VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT CONTROLLING DEFENDANTS IF THEY
ARE RELEASED. SNEIDER UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, CAT-C, MEETING REPORTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, TROOP REDUCTIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE088009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:SGOLDSMITH
Enclosure: FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770002-0653
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770437/aaaabgaf.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fd0eb1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: 77 SEOUL 2727
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2747305
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BLUE HOUSE VIEWS ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PFOR, MARR, US, KS, (KIM CHONG-YOM)
To: WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fd0eb1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009